Marked-Up Copy
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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 15, 19, 26 and 27 as in the attached marked-up copy to read as follows:

--15. (Amended) The alkali metal-containing niobate-based piezoelectric sintering material composition according to claim 13, wherein said solid solution is represented by a composition formula $Li_x(K_{1-y}Na_y)_{1-x}(Nb_{1-z}Ta_z)O_3$, wherein x = 0.001 to 0.2, y = 0 to 0.8, z = [1] 0 to 0.4.

19. (Amended) A method for producing an alkali metal-containing niobate-based piezoelectric sintering material composition, comprising:

adding an additive powder containing at least one element selected from the group consisting of Cu, Li and Ta to a powder of niobate represented by formula $ANbO_3$, wherein A is an alkali metal, then blending these powders together;

molding said [mixture] blended powders and sintering the same.

26. (Amended) The alkali metal-containing niobate-based piezoelectric material composition according to claim 15, wherein x = 0 to 0.1, y = 0 to 0.8, z = 0 to 0.4, exclusive of (x = 0, z = 0), (x = [0.8] 0.08 to 0.1, z = 0), (x = 0.1, z = 0.2), (x = 0.1, z = 0.3), (x = 0.08 to 0.1, z = 0.4) for piezoelectric constant (d31).

27. (Amended) The alkali metal-containing niobate-based piezoelectric material composition according to claim 15, wherein x = 0 to 0.1, y = 0 to 0.8, z = 0 to 0.4, exclusive of (x = 0, z = 0), (x = 0.06 to 0.1, z = 0), (x = 0.1, z = 0.1), (x = 0.08 to 0.1, z = 0.2), (x = 0, z

= 0.3), [(x = 0, z = 0.3),] (x = 0.08 to 0.1, z = 0.3), (x = 0 to 0.02, z = 0.4), (x = 0.08 to 0.1, z = 0.4) for electromechanical coupling factors (kp).--